In regard to text books I do not think it will be possible for the Government to supply them free to one community, for others also will claim the same and that will make a very heavy strain upon the finances of the Government. Already the Government have, in the case of vernacular text books, reduced the price to the lowest possible minimum.

Appointments to Cheramars, like all the other communities in the State, will be given when opportunities occur.

In the matter of exemption from age limit, Government will always be prepared to consider deserving cases, each one on its own merits. But a general exemption for the whole of any one particular community is not possible.

In the matter of appointing members of your community as group secretaries I shall refer the matter to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

The Government always take care that this community is, whenever possible, represented in the Popular Assembly and when the limited number of seats available in the Legislative Council is increased, representation will be given there also. But it is not possible at present.

**153. [Concessions to Pulayas in the matter of education and of appointment in the public service.**

MR. AIYAN KALI (*Member, Nominated*) said that the question of supplying free mid-day meals to the pupils of the depressed classes was still under the consideration of Government and he requested that favourable orders might be issued in the matter as early as possible. The students of the depressed classes who wanted to join the colleges could not do so for want of money. Full fee concession should therefore be granted to these students. Though there were several qualified candidates among the Pulayas, none was appointed in the Education Department in spite of repeated representations. So also there were six Pulaya girls who had passed the School Leaving Examination but not one of them was able to secure a permanent place in the Education Department. Pulaya young men who were able to read and write should be appointed as peons in all departments at least one per taluk. In the Police and Excise Departments particularly, no new recruitments should be made before a few places were given to the Pulayas. A few Pulaya young men should also be sent by Government to foreign countries for higher studies in agriculture, industries etc.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Aiyan Kali, I cannot promise that I will order the 32 taluk offices to employ a peon each. I will have a circular sent out that more Pulayas should be employed.

Then as regards the other point, viz., mid-day meals for Pulaya children, I believe that question is being examined.

I shall make special enquiries as to how those six Pulaya girls failed to get Government employment.

**154. Concessions to the Parayas.**

MR. KANTAN KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) stated that though orders had been issued by Government for concessional registry of lands in the names of the Parayas and other depressed classes, the lands that were actually registered in their names were but few. Most of the applications submitted in pursuance of these orders were still pending with the various officers.

(1) Applications had been made for the registry of 65 acres of lands in the Mavelikara taluk, 20 acres in survey No. 101/2 C. in the Vallikunnam pakuthi, 5 acres in Survey No. 228/1 in the same pakuthi, and 40 acres in Survey No. 119/1 in the Tamaracolam pakuthi. The Tahsildar, Mavelikara, had recommended the registry of these lands in 1097, and the parties had produced a copy of the plan of the lands before the Dewan Peishkar, Quilon, on the 3rd Makaram 1101. But the lands had not yet been registered

(2) Applications had been made since 1095 for the registry of 82 acres, 3 cents of land comprised in Survey Nos. 627/1 and 630/2 in the Kunnathur pakuthy,

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Kunnathur taluk. There were now a place of worship, an orphanage and several other buildings on this site. If the lands were registered in the names of the Parayas, it would be a very great help to them.

(3) Applications were made on the 22nd Edavom 1090 for the registry of 476 acres of land in Survey numbers 1/13, 1/14, 19/1, 20/1, 28/1, 35/1, and 731/1 in the Takazhi and Purakad pakuthies in the Ambalapuzha taluk. In 1094 the Proverthikar at Takazhi inspected the sites and told the applicants that if they gave him Rs. 5 each the lands would be registered in their names. They accordingly gave Rs. 5 each. Having got the money, he directed them to apply to the Tahsildar for the measuring and demarcation of the lands. Their applications were sent by the Tahsildar to the Surveyor. The latter met the applicants and told them that if they gave him four boundary stones and Rs. 5 each he would register the lands in their names. This also the applicants did. But after some time they came to know that Government had ordered the lands being auctioned and given away to other applicants. They accordingly met the Dewan and represented their grievances to him. The order for auction was thereupon cancelled and the question of registry was referred to the Dewan Peishkar. The Dewan Peishkar visited the locality and ordered the applicants to put in fresh applications. 181 applications were submitted in accordance with that order on the 5th Kanni 1097. But these applications had not yet been disposed of.

The following swampy areas in Reserve Forests had also to be registered in the names of the Parayas : Survey Nos. 111/1, 113/1, 112/1, 114/1 in the Manimala pakuthi; Survey No. 49/1 in the Ranni pakuthi; and Survey No. 415/3C in the Tiruvalla pakuthi. In addition to these, 50 acres of land in each Division should be registered in the name of the Brahmaprathyakshadharma Association of the Parayas.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kantan Kumaran, I have made a note of lands in the Vallikunnam and Tamaracolam pakuthies in Mavelikara and the land in Kunnathur pakuthi, and Takazhi and Purakad in Ambalapuzha taluk, and 91 cents of land in Tiruvalla taluk now in occupation by a few Parayas. I will have enquiries made about all these, and a special report submitted.

**155. Further concessions to the Parayas.**

MR. KANTAN KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the difficulties of the Parayas in the matter of education would not at all be removed by the provision of mid-day meals or the grant of fee concessions. Many of the boys were too poor to have even morning and evening meals and to buy books and clothing. What Government should do therefore was to give scholarships to all the intelligent and industrious Paraya boys in the middle school classes. As a special means of encouraging education among the Parayas, those of them who had studied up to class VII should be granted licenses for teaching in classes I and II. Their pay should also be fixed at Rs. 10. Wherever possible they might also be appointed in other departments.

There was an orphanage at Peruvincha-sivagiri in the Kunnathur taluk, maintained by the Parayas. There were fifteen children in that institution now. All the expenses of these children were met by subscriptions from the Parayas. The authorities of the orphanage were eager to open a school attached to it. Government should give a contribution towards the building of this school and also allow it a grant-in-aid.

A whole-time Protector should be appointed to look after the interests of the depressed classes. The Protector should be given more powers and privileges.

Besides, a Paraya representative should be nominated to the Legislative Council. The interests of the Parayas were not now represented in that House. None of the measures which could make for the uplift of the community was therefore brought before the House. A bill for example could very well be brought before the Council to regulate the system of inheritance among the Parayas. Such a bill was long overdue and it should be passed.

DEWANS' REPLY: Mr. Kantan Kumaran, on the first four points of your representation, I have already made pronouncements in connection with the representations of members of the depressed classes.

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